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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION



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DOCUMENT  
COLLECTION

A GUIDE TO  
HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION  
PROGRAMS

Government Documents  
Collection

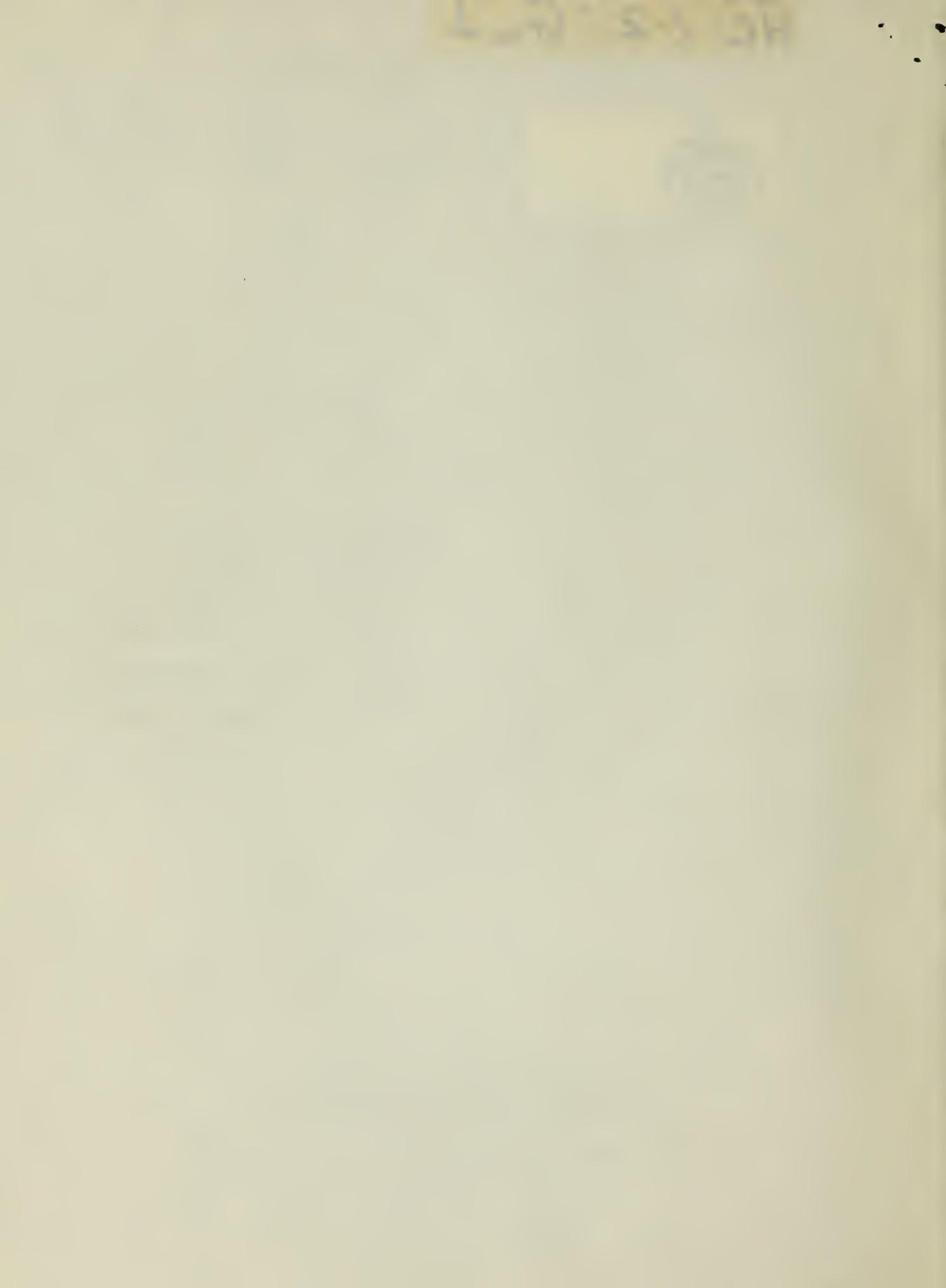
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University of Massachusetts

MAY, 1967

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SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
CHAIRMAN, MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Publication of this Document Approved by Alfred C. Holland, State Purchasing Agent



## FOREWORD

Historic preservation, broadly defined, includes the protection, rehabilitation, restoration, and continued maintenance of districts, sites, buildings and objects which are significant in history, architecture, archaeology and culture.

We have begun to realize that historic preservation can be justified aesthetically, educationally, and financially. It is through wider understanding and acceptance of these justifications that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has developed and implemented an imaginative and workable program for preservation. This program has been based on cooperative public and private efforts at all levels, which have been encouraged and supported through legislation.

This manual is intended to serve as a broad guide to the legislative support extended to preservation efforts through the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and various Federal Programs. It is not intended to serve as a do-it-yourself manual in the organization, drafting or adoption of supplementary local legislation through ordinance or by-law. Such legislation should be carefully prepared by competent local attorneys aware, not only of the legal capabilities for legislation, but of the values to be protected and the wishes and desires of the citizenry.

The Manual follows the outline established by the Office of Economic Opportunity in their Catalog of Federal Programs for Individual and Community Improvement, and provides supplementary information on public and private programs that may be applicable to Massachusetts. The OEO Catalog was not intended for use primarily by those interested in preservation, and is not therefore oriented toward that aspect of the Federal programs detailed.

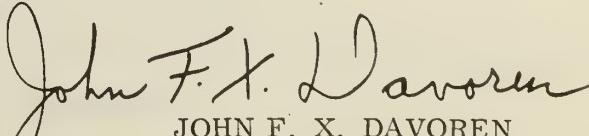
May we urge that in all cases, on Federal programs, state programs, and private programs, you make intelligent use of the published material listed. This will enable you to find out what programs may be useful to your organization, or to your project, and will save time and effort on your part, and on the part of the individuals or agencies you may wish to approach for information or assistance.

From time to time there will be additions, or deletions, or changes to this manual. For that reason it has been designed in loose-leaf form.

You should not only make full and intelligent use of this material, but keep the state Commission fully informed of your problems and your progress. Only with information available can it allocate its resources so that the needs of the entire Commonwealth are met.

It is to be hoped that use of this information will lead to a wider local acceptance of the positive values of legislative protection of our architectural, historic, archaeological and cultural heritage. It is through submitting himself to the rule of law that man has learned to live successfully with his neighbors, and yet maintain his individual freedoms. These freedoms are not infringed by positive efforts to protect the quality of our environment, but are rather maintained and fortified.

Our preservation and conservation efforts are crucial in insuring the continued maintenance of quality which has made the best of the past possible, and will make an equally bright future probable.

  
JOHN F. X. DAVOREN  
Secretary of the Commonwealth



|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Program title                 | Massachusetts Historical Commission                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Nature and purpose of program | <p>The Massachusetts Historical Commission is legislatively required to "advise the state secretary on matters relating to the historic assets of the commonwealth and assist him in compiling and maintaining an inventory of such assets."</p> <p>It has the power to research and certify sites as Massachusetts Historic Landmarks. It has a review and advisory authority in historic district and urban renewal plans. It is the repository for information concerning the Massachusetts inventory and Massachusetts historic sites, and publishes pertinent materials concerning these assets of the Commonwealth. It is the state agency through which Federal funds for historic preservation are channeled, and acts, wherever possible, to co-ordinate state, local and Federal programs in which historic sites, structures, or areas may be involved. (See attached sheet for Commission membership.)</p> |
| Eligibility for services      | Any public or private agency, or individual                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| For information contact       | Massachusetts Historical Commission<br>Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston 02133                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Printed Information Available | <p><u>Suggestions for Historic District Study Committee Reports</u><br/><u>Massachusetts Historic Landmarks</u><br/>(Available from Massachusetts Historical Commission)</p> <p><u>Historic American Buildings Survey - Massachusetts Catalog</u> (Available from the Division of Public Documents, Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston. \$.50, including postage)</p> <p><u>Procedures Manual for an Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth,</u><br/><u>Part I - Sites and Structures</u> (Available from M. H. C., free to persons or organizations in Massachusetts)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Authorizing Legislation       | Chapter 9, General Laws, Section 26 and 27<br>Chapter 36, General Laws, Section 14A<br>Chapter 40, General Laws, Section 5<br>Chapter 79, General Laws, Section 5A<br>Chapter 40C, General Laws<br>Chapter 121, General Laws, Section 26ZZ                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Administering Agency          | Massachusetts Historical Commission                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |



MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MEMBERSHIP

## APPOINTEES OF SECRETARY OF STATE

| Name                  | Organization                                                | Term Expires |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Walter Muir Whitehill | New England Historic Genealogical Society                   | 1970         |
| Thomas Boylston Adams | Massachusetts Historical Society                            | 1968         |
| John Otis Brew        | Trustees of Reservations                                    | 1968         |
| Maurice Robbins       | Massachusetts Archaeological Society                        | 1968         |
| William H. Pierson    | The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities | 1967         |
| Clifford K. Shipton   | American Antiquarian Society                                | 1967         |
| Robert F. Needham     | Bay State Historical League                                 | 1967         |

## APPOINTEES OF GOVERNOR

Albert B. Wolfe 1970  
Monsignor Edward G. Murray 1970

## COMMONWEALTH REPRESENTATIVES

**Designee:**

|                         |                                                                                               |                                                           |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Theodore W. Schulenberg | Commissioner, Department of<br>Commerce & Development                                         | Warren Dillon, Special<br>Representative                  |
| Robert Yasi             | Commissioner, Department of<br>Natural Resources                                              | Bruce S. Gullion,<br>Director, Forests<br>and Parks       |
| John F. X. Davoren      | Secretary of the Commonwealth<br>(Chairman, Massachusetts<br>Historical Commission)           | Richard W. Hale, Jr.,<br>Archivist of the<br>Commonwealth |
| Acting Chairman:        | Richard W. Hale, Jr.<br>Office of the Secretary<br>State House<br>Boston, Massachusetts 02133 |                                                           |



## Program title

Historical and Architectural Surveys

Nature  
and purpose  
of program

This program aims to locate and describe historic structures, sites and areas in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is important, in planning for a preservation program, that full knowledge of all historically, architecturally and archaeologically significant sites, structures and areas be available. Such knowledge can be obtained only through a state-wide survey. It is the legislative duty of the Massachusetts Historical Commission to "assist the State Secretary in compiling and maintaining" a list of the historic assets of the Commonwealth. The Massachusetts Historical Commission has developed the necessary printed material and guidelines for accomplishing such a list. It works through local societies, commissions and other groups with a preservation interest in accomplishing this work.

Eligibility  
for services

Any interested organization may assist in this work.

For  
information  
contact

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston 02133

Printed  
information  
available

Procedures Manual for an Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth,  
Part I Sites and Structures  
Inventory forms  
(Available from Massachusetts Historical Commission)  
Historic American Buildings Survey - Massachusetts Catalog (Available from  
Public Documents Division, Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston,  
\$.50 including postage)

Authorizing  
legislation

Chapter 9, General Laws, Section 26

Administering  
agency

Massachusetts Historical Commission



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in 2014

<https://archive.org/details/guidetohistoricp00mass>

Program title

Massachusetts Historic Landmarks

Nature and purpose of program

Any site which is determined by the Massachusetts Historical Commission to be of "substantial historical significance" to the Commonwealth, may be certified as a Massachusetts Historic Landmark. Certification is accomplished with the consent of the owners, and is recorded with the register of deeds in the county in which the landmark is located. Massachusetts Landmarks may not be taken through eminent domain, "without leave of the General Court specially obtained." Both standards for certification, and standards for the care and management of certified historic landmarks have been adopted by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, and certification is accomplished through the Commission.

Eligibility

Structures, sites and areas of "substantial historic significance" to the Commonwealth

For information contact

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston 02133

Printed information available

Standards for Certification and Standards for the Care and Management of Certified Historic Landmarks  
Massachusetts Historic Landmarks  
(Available from Massachusetts Historical Commission)

Authorizing legislation

Chapter 9, General Laws, Section 27  
Chapter 36, General Laws, Section 14A  
Chapter 79, General Laws, Section 5A

Administering agency

Massachusetts Historical Commission



|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Program title                 | Local Historical Commissions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Nature and purpose of program | <p>Commissions may be established by City Council or Selectmen in accordance with manner prescribed by law. Commissions shall conduct surveys, and seek to coordinate other organizations engaged in historic preservation work, and may advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets concerning town or city history. It may make such recommendations to the City Council or Selectmen as it deems necessary and may recommend to the Massachusetts Historical Commission, that local historical sites be certified as Massachusetts Historic Landmarks. Commissions may also acquire fee or lesser interests in personal or real property of significant historical value, and may manage same. Acquisition must be in the name of the town or city, and may be made through gift, purchase, grant, bequest, devise, or otherwise.</p> |
| Eligibility                   | Any town or city                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| For information contact       | Massachusetts Historical Commission<br>Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston 02133                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Printed information available | Acts of 1963, Chapter 697<br>(Available from the Massachusetts Historical Commission)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Authorizing legislation       | Chapter 40, General Laws, Section 8D, and 5 (56)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Administering agency          | Town Selectmen or City Council<br>Local Historical Commission                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |



|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Program title                 | Historic Districts and Historic District Commissions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Nature and purpose of program | <p>Historic District Study Commissions may be appointed by the City Council or Board of Selectmen. Through the production of a preliminary report, final report and draft of a proposed ordinance or by-law, they recommend the establishment of an historic district or districts, and an historic district commission. Study Commissions accomplish the necessary historical and architectural research on which the establishment of historic districts are based. Historic districts are areas of towns and cities which, because of the presence of significant individual structures, or compatible groups of structures, possess significant value in illustrating the history of the city, town, or of the Commonwealth. Such districts provide protection for property owners, and do not change basic land use or other patterns. This protection covers only exterior features viewable from the public right of way.</p> |
| Eligibility                   | Any city or town                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| For information contact       | Massachusetts Historical Commission, Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston 02133.<br>Massachusetts Department of Commerce & Development, 100 Cambridge St., Boston.<br>Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources, 100 Cambridge St., Boston.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Printed information available | <u>Establishment of Historic Districts</u> (Available from the Department of Commerce & Development)<br><u>Suggestions for Historic District Study Committee Reports</u><br><u>Procedures Manual for an Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth</u><br>Inventory forms<br>(All three available from the M. H. C.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Authorizing legislation       | Chapter 40C, General Laws                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Administering agency          | Initial establishment and appointment through City Council or Selectmen. In towns, approval by Town Meeting; in cities, by city council after public hearing.<br>Administration of historic districts then assumed by historic district commission.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |



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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Program title                 | Historic Preservation in Urban Renewal                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Nature and purpose of program | A city or town may, through proper channels, create an urban renewal authority, for specific purposes, including the preservation, restoration or relocation of historic buildings. Urban renewal projects may include "rehabilitation or conservation work including the preservation, restoration or relocation of historical buildings." State law requires that whenever a public hearing on an urban renewal plan is held, notice of it shall be sent to any historical or historic district commissions in the city or town and to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. It also requires that whenever an urban renewal plan is sent to the Department of Commerce and Development, a copy "shall be transmitted to said department for the use of the Massachusetts Historical Commission." |
| Eligibility                   | As applicable under specific program.<br>Any city or town                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| For information contact       | Massachusetts Historical Commission, Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston 02133.<br>Massachusetts Department of Commerce & Development, 100 Cambridge St., Boston.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Printed information available | Chapter 704, Acts of 1966                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Authorizing legislation       | Chapter 121, General Laws, Sections 26K, 26YY, and 26ZZ                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Administering agency          | City Council or Selectmen, local urban renewal or redevelopment authority                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |



|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Program title                 | Federal Programs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Nature and purpose of program | <p>Public Law 89-665, the "National Historic Preservation Act," and Public Law 89-754, the "Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966," make available, subject to various criteria and guidelines, and to Federal Appropriations, funds for historic preservation purposes. Under existing programs, listed on the attached list, the possibility exists for expending funds for preservation purposes, within the scope, and under the guidelines of the programs named. All Federal programs pre-suppose the existence of state and/or local funds, and none will fund entirely the local program.</p> |
| Eligibility                   | As determined by authorizing legislation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| For information contact       | Massachusetts Historical Commission, Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston 02133 or applicable Federal agency                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Printed information available | <p><u>Preserving Historic America</u>, Department of Housing &amp; Urban Development<br/>(Available from Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., for \$1.00)</p> <p><u>Catalog of Federal Programs for Individual and Community Improvement</u><br/>(Available from Office of Economic Opportunity, Washington, D. C.)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Authorizing legislation       | Depends on applicable program                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Administering agency          | Depends on applicable program                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |



FEDERAL AID PROGRAMS (listed in Catalog of Federal Programs for Individual and Community Improvement - OEO - w/page number)

| <u>Program Title:</u>                                                         | <u>Page Number:</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Highway Beautification                                                        | 109                 |
| Disposal of Surplus Real Property                                             | 128                 |
| Education of Children of Low Income Families                                  | 155                 |
| Vocational Education Research Grants                                          | 219                 |
| Community Renewal Program                                                     | 231                 |
| Neighborhood Facilities Program                                               | 245                 |
| Open Space Land Program                                                       | 246                 |
| Urban Beautification Program                                                  | 253                 |
| Urban Planning Assistance Program - 701 Program                               | 255                 |
| Urban Renewal Demonstration Grant Program                                     | 256                 |
| Urban Renewal Projects                                                        | 257                 |
| Urban Renewal Service                                                         | 258                 |
| Land and Water Conservation Fund Program                                      | 271                 |
| Outdoor Recreation Program                                                    | 274                 |
| Real Property for Public Parks, Public Recreational Areas and Public Purposes | 276                 |
| Neighborhood Youth Corps                                                      | 309                 |
| Community Action Program                                                      | 316                 |

OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Department of the Interior

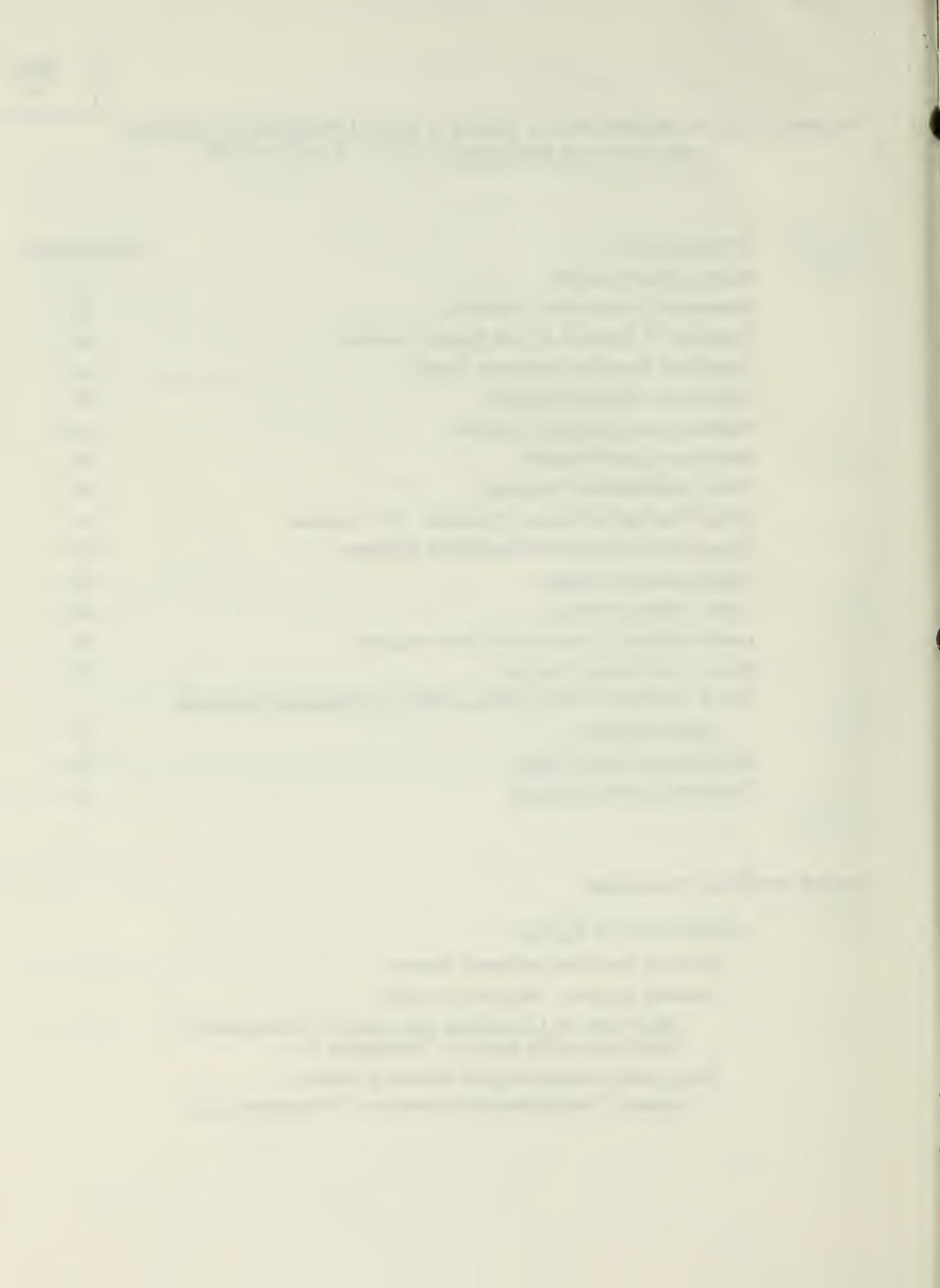
Historic American Buildings Survey

National Register: Address for both:

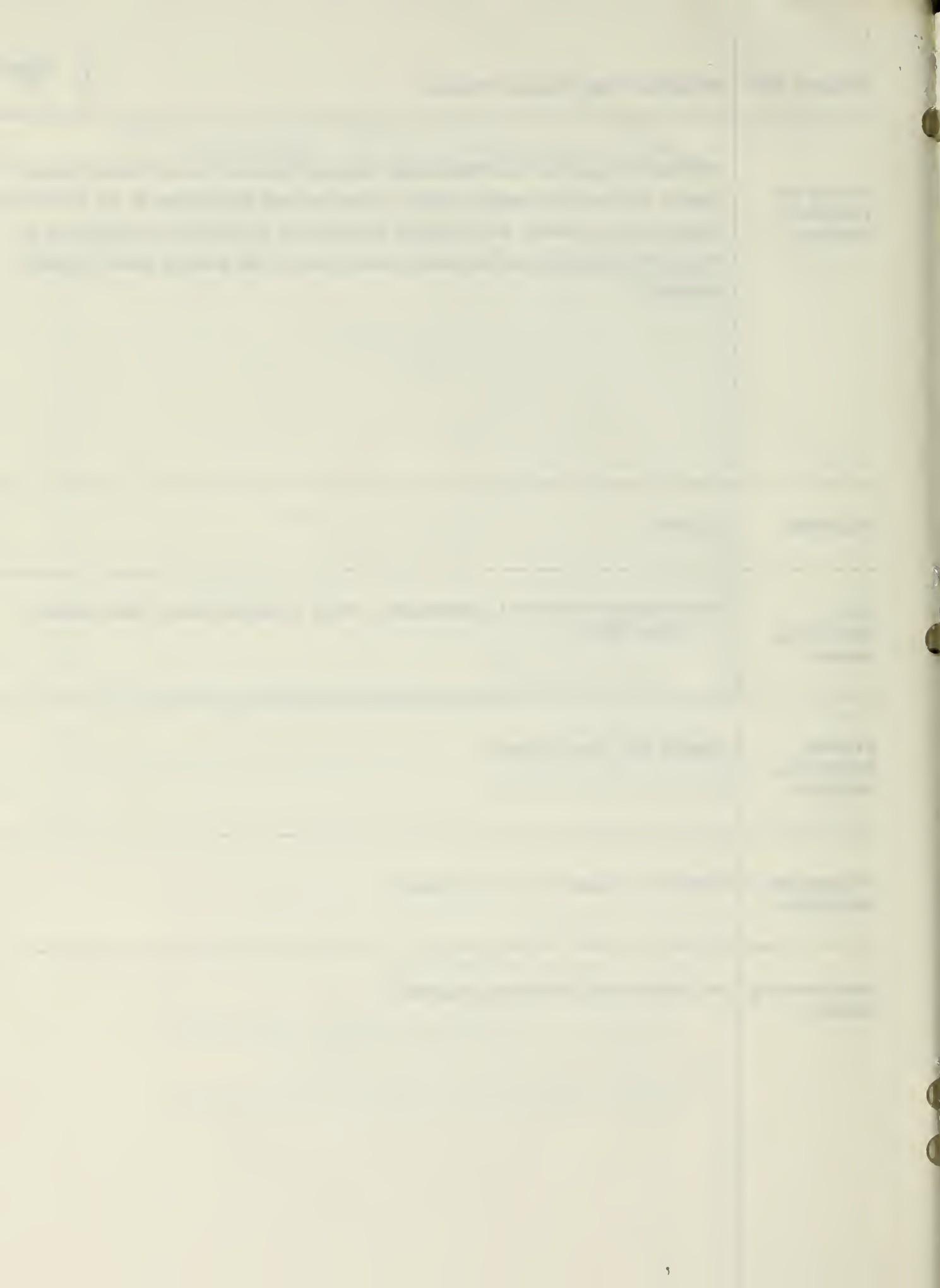
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation,  
Department of the Interior, Washington D.C.

Inter-Agency Archaeological Salvage Program:

Address: Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.



|                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Program title                 | Exemption from Eminent Domain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Nature and purpose of program | "No historic landmark certified under the provisions of section twenty-seven of chapter nine and no property owned, preserved and maintained by any historical organization or society as an ancient landmark or as property of historical or antiquarian interest shall be taken without leave of the general court specially obtained." |
| Eligibility                   | As above.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| For information contact       | Massachusetts Historical Commission, Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston 02133                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Printed information available | Chapter 697, Acts of 1963                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Authorizing legislation       | Chapter 79, General Laws, Section 5A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Administering agency          | See "nature and purpose of program".                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |



## Program title

Information sources: National Trust for Historic Preservation

## Nature and purpose of program

The National Trust is a congressionally chartered, private organization supported by membership dues and contributions. It owns and administers several properties of national significance, but its major work is in the field of promoting public participation in historic preservation activities. It publishes a bi-monthly magazine, Historic Preservation, a monthly newspaper, Preservation News, and other papers dealing with the how-to aspects of historic preservation. It is the major national source of information concerning preservation activities, and through its publications and professional staff, can offer assistance or referral concerning most preservation problems. More than forty Massachusetts organizations are organizational members, including the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Membership open to all interested organizations and individuals.

## Eligibility

Any interested organization or individual.

## For information contact

National Trust for Historic Preservation  
748 Jackson Place, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

## Printed information available

Publications: National Trust and Other (Extensive list of publications published by, or available from the National Trust. Publications lists of American Association for State and Local History, American Institute of Architects, American Institute of Planners, American Society of Landscape Architects, and American Society of Planning Officials - also available free from The National Trust, on Request.)

## Authorizing legislation

Public Law 408, 81st Congress

## Administering agency

The National Trust for Historic Preservation

